



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SHIRLEY HORTON

August 18, 1999

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SAN DIEGO
COUNTY GRAND JURY

Grand Jury
County of San Diego
Attn: Peter J. Direnza, Foreman
330 West Broadway, Suite 477
San Diego, CA 92101-3830

Subject: **San Diego County Grand Jury 1998-1999 Report: "Implementation of the Multiple Species Conservation Program"**

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Chula Vista I respectfully submit the following responses to the recommendations contained in the Grand Jury Report "Implementation of the Multiple Species Conservation Program" per direction of the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. The following paragraphs and responses only address those recommendations of the Report in which the City of Chula Vista were directed to respond.

Recommendation 99-98: *The City of Chula Vista should fund the MSCP, if it is adopted, with a reliable and adequate funding source. The money budgeted should be enough to cover the cost of acquiring the necessary land, based on a 30-year program.*

The City of Chula Vista agrees with the finding that each participating MSCP jurisdiction should incorporate measures into their respective Subarea Plans to insure that the preserve designed for the MSCP will be assembled and dedicated into open space. Chula Vista is currently completing its MSCP Subarea Plan. Several tools will be examined to ensure that the goals for a Chula Vista MSCP Preserve are accomplished, including subdivision requirements, habitat mitigation program(s) and potential local, state and federal funding of preserve land acquisition. The first Council Workshop to discuss this issue is scheduled for August 19, 1999.

Recommendation 99-100: *The Cities of Chula Vista and Santee should bring their respective subarea plans forward to their respective City Councils in an expeditious manner.*

The City of Chula Vista agrees that the City Subarea Plan should be considered by the City Council as soon as possible. City staff are working diligently with the Wildlife Agencies to complete a Subarea Plan that will meet federal and State guidelines. Council hearing(s) on the Subarea Plan are anticipated to occur before the end of this calendar year.

Recommendation 99-101: *The San Diego City Council, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, the City Councils of Chula Vista, Poway, and Santee, and the Board of Directors of the Otay Water District should continue to work with state and federal governments to ensure the success of the MSCP.*

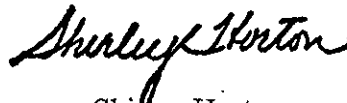
Chula Vista agrees that each participating local agency should continue to work with state and federal governments to ensure the success of the MSCP. Our City is currently working with the state and federal Wildlife Agencies, and will continue to do so.

Recommendation 99-102: *The San Diego City Council, the San Diego Board of Supervisors, the City Councils of Chula Vista, Coronado, Del Mar, El Cajon, La Mesa, Poway, and Santee, and the Board of Directors of the Otay Water District should identify an existing organization or create a new organization to determine an equitable means of funding the long-term management of MSCP lands. This means of funding should not be reliant on the proposed local regional funding source. It should be funds from each participating jurisdiction based on acreage, population, and /or other criteria which the jurisdictions identify. In addition to determining the funding for management of the land, participating jurisdictions should identify an existing organization or create a new organization for the allocation of management funds.*

The City of Chula Vista agrees that long-term MSCP preserve management must be equitably funded. The City is participating in regional discussions related to long-term management planning.

I hope that the above responses adequately address the concerns of the Grand Jury. If you have any further inquiries please contact Mr. David D. Rowlands, Jr., City Manager, at (619) 691-5031.

Sincerely,



Shirley Horton
Mayor

cc: David D. Rowlands, Jr., City Manager
George Krempf, Deputy City Manager
John Kaheny, City Attorney
Robert A. Leiter, Director of Planning and Building

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